



breakout ABSTRACT

Abstract No. 9

TITLE

SUSTAINING A NATIONWIDE APPROACH TO DEVELOPING COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILES

TRACK

Network Sustainability

OBJECTIVES

- Understand why community indicators are important to track and report
- Learn about how CHSI is approaching sustainability

SUMMARY

Delivery of twenty-first century public health infrastructure and services that ready every community for potential disasters or threats, requires ongoing local monitoring and reporting. Health in Place (CDC) and Healthy People (US DHHS) planning emphasizes healthy people in healthy communities and recognizes that social circumstances contribute to individual well being. The Community Health Status Indicators Project (CHSI) provides county-level health profiles for communities attempting to monitor and address community health. The major goal of the CHSI project is to provide value-added, easy to understand, state-of-the-art reports that convey the breadth of public health issues and the uniqueness of local needs and assets. Initiated in 1998 by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and multiple public and private partners, CHSI provided 1993-1998 health, education, environment, census, and other data for all US counties. In 2005, a group of Federal and private partners reconvened to update and further develop CHSI. The current goal is to update (with 1999-2003/04 data) and refine the existing indicators and to make the information available to communities via the Internet.

Additional resources will be required to meet long-term goals to assure CHSI sustainability and enhancement, provide communities with tools and assistance with using CHSI in community efforts, and coordinate these efforts with other community indicator activities. While the Federal partners are committed to providing as many "in-kind" resources as possible, the scope of the project, combined with current Federal budget realities, requires the CHSI partnership to look beyond the Federal agencies for resources.

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